

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 02435 070710Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02
/040 W

-----071921Z 067134 /73 S

R 060929Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4538
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC HONOLULU

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN
SUBJECT: BANGLADESH DELEGATION TO FARAKKA TALKS

REF: DACCA 2288

1. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN DACCA, A TEN-MEMBER DELEGATION WILL TRAVEL TO NEW DELHI MAY 6 TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON THE FARAKKA ISSUE. THE DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY B.M. ABBAS, ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT ON FLOOD CONTROL, WATER RESOURCES AND POWER. OTHER MEMBERS WILL BE MUSTAFA KAMAL, ADVOCATE-GENERAL; M. ASAFADDOWLA, CHAIRMAN OF WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD; HARUNUR RASHID, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MFA; M.F.A. SIDDIQUI, MEMBER, JOINT RIVERS COMMISSION; AMJAD HOSSAIN KHAN AND M.A. MATIN OF WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE BANGLADESH HIGH COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI, INCLUDING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BANGLADEHS, K.P.S. MENON, HAS ALSO GONE TO DELHI.

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2. COMMENT: THE DELEGATION, AS WAS EXPECTED, IS COMPOSED OF TECHNICAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL OR DIPLOMATIC DELEGATES. IT SEEMS A BIT UNLIKELY THAT SUCH A TECHNICAL-LEVEL DELEGATION WOULD BE GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONCLUDING A FARAKKA TREATY, AS WAS ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED MIGHT OCCUR IN DELHI. THE FARAKKA ISSUE HAS RECEIVED LITTLE

PUBLICITY IN DACCA RECENTLY AND FEW PEOPLE SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT A COMPLETE AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED SOON. MORE IMPORTANT IN THIS JUDGEMENT THAN THE TECHNICAL LEVEL OF THE CURRENT DELEGATION IS THE IMPENDING ELECTION IN WEST BENGAL AND WHAT IS SEEN HERE AS A POTENTIAL ANTI-JANATA ISSUE ON FARAKKA.

3. FYI: ABBAS IS DESCRIBED AS "ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT", BUT HE IS NOT A MEMBER OF "THE COUNCIL OF ADVISORS", THE SURROGATE CABINET, AND IS THEREFORE NOT A MINISTERIAL RANK.
MASTERS

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-0, MR. PFOTENHAUER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER RIGHTS, WATER DIVERSION, FARAKKA BARRAGE, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Reference: 77 DACCA 2288
Retention: 0
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SAS ID: 2619876
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BANGLADESH DELEGATION TO FARAKKA TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, IN, BG
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